

**NSC BRIEFING**

**13 March 1958**

**INDONESIA**

- I. Indonesian govt forces which captured oil center of Pekanbaru by air-borne assault by 2-3 hundred men on 12 March are now moving westward along the highway leading to the dissident stronghold of Bukittinggi and Padang.
  - A. So far, resistance has been light.
- II. Other forces, probably totaling 3-4 battalions, are converging on Pekanbaru and some elements may have already arrived.
  - A. One contingent is moving up the Siak River; another is making an overland approach, coming down from Dumai.
  - B. These forces can be expected to press westward advance.
- III. Govt also intends to attack Rengat--Stanvac oil center 100 miles southeast of Pekanbaru--on 15 March, according to Army attache report.
- IV. Press reports of amphibious assault on Padang area of west coast of central Sumatra not confirmed, but such an attack may come soon.
  - A. Padang was shelled on 10th and 12th by navy corvettes.
  - B.  3 1/2 25X1  
battalions and navy's 900-man marine corps are available for this attack.
  - C. Another thrust  is 25X1  
coming down from Medan and is said to be deep in Central Sumatran territory.

DIA review  
completed.

25 YEAR  
RE-REVIEW

- V. Djakarta is confident of achieving quick knockout; Premier Djuanda says entire matter will be settled in "week or two."**

1. [ ] extensive fraternization between dissidents and govt troops after unopposed landing at Pakning in mouth of Siak River. 25X1
2. Col. Harouw, former MA in Peiping, now in Singapore, who was on way to join dissidents has changed his mind.
3. The Indonesian MAs in Washington and Bonn are going to Singapore possibly to join the dissidents, but may also change their minds. 25X1

**VI. Dissidents, however, remain defiant.**

B. Other leaders have said that even if major centers are lost, government forces will have serious guerrilla war on its hands.

**(VII. Evacuation of American dependents (242 dependents -- 506 male employees) from Central Sumatra proceeding according to Indonesian government plan; some 50 went by ship to Singapore; rest are at safe havens of Rumbai and Lirik.**

- A. US Navy Task Force 75 standing by to assist, if called on.
- B. UK is to evacuate 25 US citizens from North Celebes.)
- C. Premier Djuanda has indicated that Caltex people in Pakanbaru area should "go back to work."

VIII. Despite reports to contrary, it most unlikely that Hatta and Sukarno have reached agreement or likely to in foreseeable future, late report suggests military may take Hatta into "protective custody" because of his continuing opposition to use of force in Sumatra.

- A. Agreement would have no effect on military campaign anyway.
- B. Sukarno in tour of Java and East Indonesia drumming up support for anti-dissident campaign; to be climaxed with speech at mass rally in Bandung on 16 March.

25X1

IX. Communists continue back campaign of suppression; [redacted]

[redacted] large numbers have volunteered for service in Sumatra.

25X1

- A. Mohammed Roem also stated that large part of attacking force is composed of Communist veterans armed by the government.

X. Djakarta continues looking to bloc for aid.

- A. Foreign Minister announced that 10 small ships (35,000 tons total) of Soviet shipping would be purchased, and would be made within framework of recently ratified \$100,000,000 loan agreement.

25X1

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